

**343. Removal of filth or noxious vegetation.**—The commissioner may by notice require the owner or occupier of any building or land (which appears to him to be in a filthy or unwholesome state or overgrown with any thick or noxious vegetation, trees or undergrowth injurious to health or offensive to the neighbourhood), to cleanse, clear or otherwise put the building or land in proper state or to clear away and remove such vegetation, trees or undergrowth within twenty-four hours or such longer period and in such manner as may be specified in the notice.

**344. Abatement of nuisance from dust, smoke, etc.**—If in the opinion of the commissioner the storage, dumping or deposit in any building or land of coal, charcoal ashes, cinders, gunny bags, wool, cotton or any material or the shifting, breaking, cutting or burning of such coal, charcoal, ashes, cinders or material or subjecting the same to any process causes or is likely to cause nuisance to the inhabitants in the neighbourhood of such building or land, by the emanation of dust, floating particles, smoke, unwholesome smell or noise or otherwise, he may, by notice, require the owner or occupier of such building or land to take such steps as may be specified in the notice for the abatement of such nuisance.

**345. Fencing of buildings or lands and pruning of hedges and trees.**—The commissioner may by notice require the owner or occupier of any building or land near a public street to,—

(a) fence the same to the satisfaction of the commissioner ; or

(b) trim or prune any hedges bordering on the said street so that they may not exceed such height from the level of the adjoining roadway as the commissioner may determine ; or

(c) cut and trim any hedges and trees overhanging the said street and obstructing it or the view of traffic or causing it damage ; or

(d) lower an enclosing wall or fence which by reason of its height and situation obstructs the view of traffic so as to cause danger.

**346. Limewashing and cleansing of buildings.**—The commissioner if it appears to him necessary for sanitary purposes so to do may by notice require the owner or occupier of any building to limewash or otherwise cleanse the building inside and outside in the manner and within a period to be specified in the order.

**347. Further powers with reference to insanitary buildings.**—(1) Whenever the commissioner considers,—

(a) that any building or portion thereof is, by reason of its having no plinth or having a plinth of insufficient height or by reason of the want of proper drainage or ventilation or by reason of the impracticability of cleansing, attended with danger of disease to the occupier thereof or to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, or is for any reason likely to endanger the public health or safety, or

(b) that a block or group of buildings, is, for any of the said reasons, or by reason of the manner in which the buildings are crowded together, attended with such risk as aforesaid,

he may by notice require the owners or occupiers of such buildings or portions of buildings, or at his option the owners of the land occupied by such buildings or portions of buildings to execute such works or to take such measures as he may deem necessary for the prevention of such danger.

(2) No person shall be entitled to compensation for damages sustained by reason of any action taken under or in pursuance of this section save when a building is demolished in pursuance of an order made hereunder, or so far demolished as to require reconstruction, in which cases the

corporation shall make reasonable compensation to the owner thereof.

(3) When any building is entirely demolished under this section and the demolition thereof adds to the value of other buildings in the immediate vicinity the owners of such other buildings shall be bound to contribute towards the compensation payable to the owner of the first named building in such proportion to the increased value acquired by their respective buildings as may be determined by the commissioner.

(4) When any building is so far demolished under this section as to require reconstruction, allowance shall be made, in determining the compensation, for the benefit accruing to the premises from the improvement thereof.

**348. Building unfit for human habitation.**—(1) If any building, or portion thereof, intended for or used as a dwelling-place appears to the commissioner to be unfit for human habitation he may apply to the standing committee to prohibit the further use of such building for such purpose, and the standing committee may, after giving the owner and occupiers thereof a reasonable opportunity of showing cause why such order should not be made, make a prohibitory order as aforesaid.

(2) When any such prohibitory order has been made, the commissioner shall communicate the purport thereof to the owner and occupier of the building and on expiry of such period as is specified in the notice, not being less than thirty days after the service of the notice no owner or occupier shall use or suffer it to be used for human habitation until the commissioner certifies in writing that the causes rendering it unfit for human habitation have been removed to his satisfaction, or the standing committee withdraws the prohibition.

(3) When such prohibitory order has remained in operation for three months, the commissioner shall report the case to the standing committee which shall thereupon

consider whether the building should not be demolished. The standing committee shall give the owner not less than thirty days' notice of the time and place at which the question will be considered and the owner shall be entitled to be heard when the question is taken into consideration.

(4) If upon such consideration the standing committee is of opinion that the building has not been rendered fit for human habitation and that steps are not being taken with due diligence to render it so fit and that the continuance thereof is a nuisance or dangerous or injurious to the health of the public or to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, it shall record a decision, to that effect with the grounds of the decision, and the commissioner shall, in pursuance of the said decision by notice, require the owner to demolish the building.

(5) If the owner undertakes to execute forthwith the works necessary to render the building fit for human habitation and the commissioner considers that it can be so made fit, the commissioner may postpone the execution of the decision of the standing committee, for such time not exceeding six months, as he thinks sufficient for the purpose of giving the owner an opportunity of executing the necessary works.

**349. Abatement of crowding in dwelling house or dwelling place.**—(1) If it appears to the commissioner that any dwelling house or other building which is used as a dwelling place, or any room in any such dwelling-house, or building, is so overcrowded as to endanger the health of the inmates thereof, he may, apply to a magistrate, to abate such overcrowding; and the magistrate, after such inquiry as he thinks fit to make, may by written order, require the owner of the building or room, within a reasonable time, not exceeding four weeks, to be laid down in the said order, to abate such overcrowding by reducing the number of lodgers, tenants or other inmates of the building or room, or may pass such other order as he may deem just and proper.

(2) The standing committee may declare what amount of superficial cubic space shall be deemed for the